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1927

JOHN HOUGHTON *family*

OF LANCASTER, MASS.,

And Some of His Descendants

By

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JOHN HOUGHTON OF LANCASTER, MASS.,
AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

THE Houghtons of Lancaster* were a very numerous race. The civil and military services of the early members of the family, their ownership of lands, and their residences have been recorded in many printed local histories, notably in those of Lancaster and adjoining towns, and it is not proposed to repeat them here. Some confusion and wrong identifications are found in the previously published accounts, which it may be worth while to correct in a later contribution to the history of the family; but this article is confined to an attempt to trace some of the descendants of John Houghton, the earliest known ancestor of this Lancaster family, and to correct several errors about them that have appeared in recent publications.

In giving references in this article the following abbreviations are used: *M. D.* for Middlesex Deeds, *M. P.* for Middlesex Probate Records, *W. D.* for Worcester Deeds, and *W. P.* for Worcester Probate Records. The Lancaster records cited have been printed in Nourse's "The Birth, Marriage and Death Register . . . of Lancaster," which contains also church and cemetery records.

1. JOHN¹ HOUGHTON, of Lancaster, born probably in England, died 29 Apr. 1684 (gravestone at Lancaster). He married BEATRIX ———, who, with seven children, survived him.†

Nothing definite is known of the antecedents of John Houghton. It has been said that he was a cousin of Ralph Houghton, the first town clerk of Lancaster,‡ but no verification of this relationship has ever been offered. It has also been said that he came to this country in the *Abigail* in 1635, aged 4 years, with a certificate from two justices and the minister of Eaton Bray, co. Bedford, England (Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary*, vol. 2, p. 469; cf. Pope, *Pioneers of Massachusetts*, p. 241). The passenger list of this ship contains an entry which reads, according to Hotten, "Jo^a Houghton 4 yers old," and, according to Drake, "Jo^a Houghton 4 yers old." Savage seems to doubt the accuracy of this entry, as far as the age is concerned; and, according to information received from Eaton Bray,§

*All places mentioned in this article are situated within the present limits of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, unless another State or region is indicated in the text or may be easily inferred from the context.

†Wyman, in his *Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown*, states that Benjamin Bosworth of Hull married Beatrix Houghton, who died 8 Jan. 1711/12, m. 89, and it has been supposed that she was the widow of John¹ Houghton. But Judge Samuel Sewall wrote in his *Diary*: "Sixth day Jan. 1711 Mrs. Benj. Bosworth is buried Aged 89 years. Her first husband's name was Joslin by whom she had her daughter," etc. Nourse, in his *Annals of Lancaster*, p. 321, gives this entry: "1671: 9, 16 Benj. Bosworth and widow Beatrice Joslin [married]." But in 1671 John¹ Houghton was living. There is, therefore, no evidence of the marriage of his widow.

‡History of Lancaster, by Joseph Willard; *Worcester Magazine and Historical Journal*, vol. 2, p. 231 (September, 1826).

§History and Genealogy of the Houghton Family, Halifax, N. S., 1896.

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there are but two John Houghtons recorded in the parish registers who could have sailed in the *Abigail*, one being a married man who was 42 years old and had ten children, and the other, aged 11 years, being a son of the former. Probably the emigrant in the *Abigail* was the elder of these two, and the customs officials made an error, writing "4" instead of "42." But, at any rate, it is certain that the emigrant in the *Abigail* was not identical with John Houghton of Lancaster. Whether this emigrant of 1635 returned to England, as has been stated, is not known. If he left a wife and ten children there, his return is entirely probable. His son John, baptized 24 Dec. 1624, may have come to America, but no record of his sailing has been found. It has been stated that John Houghton of Lancaster married his wife, Beatrix, in England, and that his eldest son, John, was born there; but this is mere conjecture, and proof for any of these assertions is lacking.

John Houghton seems to have been early in Dedham, but he must not be confused with the John Holton or Houghton who married Abigail Fisher in 1666/7. The Dedham records contain the births of two of his children, Robert and Mary. The latter was born 22 Mar. 1660/1, and it is likely that soon thereafter John Houghton removed to Lancaster, where he took a prominent part in the affairs of the town. After the massacre he lived for a while in Charlestown, and his son "Jonathan" (doubtless an error for "Jonas") is mentioned in the records of the Charlestown selectmen. He returned eventually to Lancaster.

In his will, dated 8 Apr. 1684 and proved 17 June 1684, he bequeathed to his wife Beatrix and his children John, Robert, Jonas, Benjamin, Mary, and Sarah (M. P.). On 4 Apr. 1721, after the death of the widow, the estate was divided between John (the "eldest son"), Robert, and Jonas Houghton, John Harris (who had married Mary Houghton), and Beatrix Pope. No mention was made in this division of John Houghton's daughter Sarah, because her share in the estate had been conveyed to her brothers, John, Robert, and Jonas Houghton. Benjamin Houghton's share, "had he survived," was divided among the other children; and it is therefore clear that Benjamin had died *s.p.* before 1721. (M. P., vol. 16, p. 261.)

Children:

2. i. JOHN,² b. about 1650.
3. ii. ROBERT, b. 28. 1 mo. 1659 (Dedham records).
- iii. MARY, b. 22 Mar. 1660/1 (Dedham records); m. JOHN HARRIS. She appears to have had two children, *Benjamin* and *Mary*.*
4. iv. JONAS, b. about Apr. 1663 (gravestone at Lancaster).
- v. BEATRIX, b. 3, 10 mo. 1665 (Lancaster records); m. 30 Sept. 1683 JOHN POPE. They had a daughter *Susannah*, b. 7 Oct. 1684 (*ib.*), who m. Thomas Wilder and had many children, a daughter *Margaret*, and probably other children.
- vi. BENJAMIN, b. 25 May 1668 (Lancaster records); d. *s.p.* before 1721 (*vide supra*).

*In an instrument dated 19 Aug. 1740, recorded in W. D., lib. 12, p. 504, is a recital that Benjamin Harris and Mary, wife of Philip Larkin, were heirs to land "left to them by heirship by their late honored mother Mary Harris descending to her from their late honored grandfather, John Houghton late, of Lancaster, deceased."

John Houghton removed from Dedham, where he had resided a dozen years, to the newer plantation of Lancaster, in which he was interested as proprietor, about 1663. John Holton (generally called Houghton in Dedham records) son of Dea. William Holton of Northampton, Mass., m. Abigail, dau. of Lieut. Joshua Fisher of Dedham, 1 March, 1666/67. Thought Holton had been living at Dedham prior to his marriage, having received permission from the Selectmen to sojourn at Lieut. Fisher's house, he didn't exactly settle down there, for his first child was b. in Northampton in 1668, one in Dedham in 1670, one in Northampton in 1773, and one in Dedham in 1775.

Sarah Houghton (Henry,³ John,² John,¹) is not mentioned here, but must have been of some maturity 31 Mar. 1734, when "Sarah, the daughter of Henry Houghton (was baptised) upon her owning the Covenant," (Register, p. 283).

- vii. SARAH, b. 30, 5 mo. 1672 (Lancaster records); d. before 1733; m. DANIEL GOBLE of Lancaster, who removed to Hannover, N. J. Five sons and two daughters.*

2. JOHN² HOUGHTON (*John*¹), of Lancaster, born about 1650, died 3 Feb. 1736/7, in his 87th year (gravestone at Lancaster).† He married first, 22, 11 mo. 1671, MARY FARRAR, who died 9 (or 7, according to her gravestone) Apr. 1724, in her 76th year; and secondly, 27 Jan. 1724/5, MRS. HANNAH (ATHERTON) WILDER, who survived him and died 4 Jan. 1737/8, daughter of James and Hannah Atherton and widow of John Wilder. (Lancaster records.)

This John Houghton was a noted figure in the history of Lancaster, where he was known as "Esquire" or "Justice" and served the town repeatedly as moderator, selectman, assessor, schoolmaster, representative to the General Court, town clerk, and clerk of the writs.

Children by first wife:

- i. LIEUT. JOHN,³ b. at Lancaster 13, 12 mo. 1672; m. (1) at Concord, 20 Nov. 1698, MRS. MARY GOSS, widow of Philip Goss (Concord records); m. (2) at Lancaster, 7 Jan. 1719/20, SARAH GULLIVER, b. at Milton 26 Oct. 1691 (Milton records). Administration on his estate was granted to his widow, Sarah, in 1724. The inventory of the estate amounted to £781. He left two children, who are mentioned, in a deed given by John² Houghton (2) in 1729 (W. D., lib. 9, p. 169), as children and heirs of his (the grantor's) eldest son.

Children by second wife:

1. *Elizabeth*,⁴ bapt. 12 Feb. 1720/1; probably m. Caleb Trowbridge.
 2. *Sarah*, bapt. 10 Mar. 1722/3; unm. in 1743 (W. D., lib. 17, p. 224); probably m. 3 July 1744 Thomas Lawrence of Groton (Groton records).
5. ii. JACOB, b. at Lancaster 17, 2 mo. 1674.
- iii. HENRY, b. 23 Feb. 1676 (Woburn records); d. 17 Dec. 1756, aged 80 years, 9 months (gravestone at Bolton); m. (1) ABIGAIL BARROW (Watertown records), b. 30, 5 mo. 1680, d. in 1711, aged 31 (gravestone); m. (2) ANNA ———, b. in 1681, d. 14 Feb. 1747/8, aged 66 (gravestone at Bolton).

Children by first wife:

1. *Henry*,⁴ b. in 1701 (Watertown records); d. in 1702, aged 1 year, 6 months (gravestone at Lancaster).
2. *Henry*, b. in 1704.
3. *A son*, d. in 1708, aged 6 weeks (gravestone at Lancaster).
4. *Abigail*, bapt. in 1708 (W. D., lib. 39, p. 449).
5. *Hazadiah*, b. 24, 4 mo. 1709; d. in 1711, aged 2 years, 2 months (gravestone at Lancaster).

Children by second wife:

6. *Anna*, b. in 1713 or 1714 (W. D., lib. 45, p. 243).
7. *Sanderson*, b. in 1716 (W. D., lib. 39, p. 188).
8. *Mercy*, b. in 1718.
9. *Joseph* (W. D., lib. 39, p. 189).
10. *Hepsibah* (W. D., lib. 37, p. 567).
11. *Abiah*, b. 21 Mar. 1725/6; d. 23 Nov. 1774.

*They had Daniel, Robert, Jemima, Thomas, Jonas, Ephraim, and Allis, who convey "as heirs to real estate of our late honored mother, Sarah Goble, alias Sarah Houghton by our honored grandfather John Houghton deceased." (W. D., lib. 7, p. 259, lib. 9, p. 67, lib. 6, p. 486.) Some of the John Houghton estate was sold to John,² Robert,² and Jonas² Houghton, 17 Jan. 1694/5. Sarah Goble was then living, but she was dead before 1733.

†Cf. also the *Boston Evening Post* of 14 Feb. 1736/7.

- iv. ✓ JOSEPH (twin), b. 26 Feb. 1678 (Woburn records); d. before Nov. 1718, when his children were baptized (Lancaster records); m. his first cousin, ISABELL HOUGHTON (3, iv), b. 6 June 1687, *q.v.* The account of his widow, as administratrix of his estate, 7 May 1726 (M. P.), charges £40 for "bringing up of ye children and tendance of five children in times of sickness and for funeral charges for two of said children deceased in time of said sickness." In 1728 distribution of his estate was granted in Middlesex County, his widow (who had married again) receiving one-third and his three living children two-thirds of the property.
- Children:
1. *Joseph*.⁴
 2. *Elizabeth*.
 - ✓ 3. *Anna*, m. 21 Nov. 1728 Shubael Bayley (Lancaster records; W. D., lib. 35, p. 239, anno 1751).
 4. *Sarah*, aged 16 in 1728.
 5. *Benjamin*, aged 12 in 1728.
- v. ✓ BENJAMIN (twin), b. 26 Feb. 1678 (Woburn records); d. *s.p.* before 1746. In the division of the estate of his brother, William³ Houghton, in 1746, no mention was made of Benjamin, although every other brother and sister and the heirs of deceased brothers and sisters were included in the distribution. No conveyance by Benjamin of his share is recorded, and the division was in equal parts. It is therefore fairly certain that Benjamin had died *s.p.* before 1746.
- vi. MARY, b. 7 Feb. 1680 (Woburn records); d. 1 Apr. 1752 (Bolton records); m. WILLIAM SAWYER (W. D., lib. 3, p. 126), who d. 3 Feb. 1740/1 (gravestone at Bolton).
- Children (surname *Sawyer*):
1. *Aholiab*,
 2. *Mary*,
 3. *Annah*,
 4. *Hepzibah*,
- } bapt. 1 July 1711.
5. *William*, bapt. 18 Nov. 1711.
 6. *Josiah*, b. 13 Aug. 1714 (Lancaster records).
 7. *Thankful*, bapt. 7 Apr. 1717.
 8. *Martha*, bapt. 5 July 1719.
 9. *David*, bapt. 27 Aug. 1721.
 10. *Abigail*, bapt. 23 Aug. 1724.
- vii. MERCY, b. 15 Mar. 1682 (Woburn records); d. 7 Jan. 1733/4 (Lancaster records); m. EBENEZER WILDER, b. 23 June 1683, d. 25, 12 mo. 1745, in his 65th year (gravestone at Lancaster; W. D., lib. 9, pp. 161, 162, 164).
- Children (surname *Wilder*), mentioned in their father's will (W. P., 1746):
1. *Benjamin*, bapt. 22 Apr. 1711.
 2. *Hepsibah*, bapt. 1 Jan. 1712; m. Jonathan Wilson.
 3. *David*, bapt. 27 Jan. 1714.
 4. *Jacob*, bapt. 1 Sept. 1717; probably d. before his father.
- ✓ viii. ANNA, b. 7 May 1684 (Lancaster records); d. 3 Apr. 1751, in her 67th year (gravestone at Lancaster); m. JOHN PRIEST (W. D., lib. 4, p. 467), who d. 29 Sept. 1756 (gravestone at Lancaster).
- Children (surname *Priest*):
1. *Abigail*, d. 25 Sept. 1723, in her 17th year (gravestone at Lancaster).
 2. *Annah*, bapt. 12 Sept. 1708.
 3. *Mary*, bapt. 12 Sept. 1708.
 4. *Damaris*, bapt. 21 Apr. 1710.
 5. *Rachael*, bapt. 20 Dec. 1713.
 6. *Hepzibah*, bapt. 8 Apr. 1716.
 7. *Jonathan*, bapt. 9 Nov. 1718; probably d. young.
 8. *Mariah*, bapt. 30 July 1721.
 9. *Jonathan*, d. 23 Apr. 1738, aged 12 years, 7 months (gravestone at Lancaster).

- ix. ✓ JONATHAN, b. 20 Feb. 1685 (Lancaster records); d. 8 Apr. 1737; m. 6 Nov. 1712 THANKFUL WHITE (*ib.*), b. 27 Mar. 1689, daughter of Josiah and Mary (or Keziah) White (*ib.*; W. D., lib. 4, p. 37).
Children (from Lancaster records):
1. *Thankful*,⁴ b. 3 Mar. 1713/14; m. 12 July 1733 Simon Whitcomb.
 2. *Mary*, b. 19 Sept. 1715; m. Nathaniel Sawyer.
 3. *Keziah*, b. 31 May 1717.
 - ✓ 4. *Jonathan*, b. 28 Mar. 1719; m. in 1746 Sarah Houghton.
 5. *Azibah*, b. 20 Nov. 1720; m. Isaiah Whitecomb.
 6. *Pyrha*, b. 17 Aug. 1721.
 - ✓ 7. *Rufus*, b. 9 Nov. 1722.
 8. *Achra*, b. 16 Jan. 1724/5.
 9. *Ephah*, b. 26 June 1727; d. 27 Sept. 1729.
 - ✓ 10. *Zerish*, b. 18 Feb. 1728/9.
- x. HEPSIBETH (or HEPHZIBAH), "youngest daughter" (W. D., lib. 2, p. 536), m. as early as 1715 JOSEPH BRABROOK (*ib.*, lib. 9, p. 167).
Children (surname *Brabrook*):
1. *John*, bapt. 7 Apr. 1717 (Lancaster records).
 2. *Joseph*, bapt. 7 Apr. 1717 (Lancaster records).
 3. *Bethesda*, b. 11 Nov. 1718 (Brookfield records).
- xi. ✓ WILLIAM, b. 26 Apr. 1696 (gravestone at Lancaster); d. s.p. 15 July 1743, aged 48 years; m. 4 June 1724 EXPERIENCE HOUGHTON, a descendant of Ralph Houghton. In 1746 his estate was divided among his brothers and sisters and their issue (W. P.).
- ✓ 3. ROBERT² HOUGHTON (*John*¹), born 28, 1 mo. 1659 (Dedham records), died 7 Nov. 1723, in his 65th year (gravestone at Lancaster). He married ESTHER ———, who died 13 Jan. 1740/1, in her 82d year. She was probably Esther Lippenwell, who was born in May 1658, daughter of Michael and Isabel Lippenwell. From the will of Robert Houghton (M. P.), the settlement of his estate (*ib.*), and the records of various towns his children appear to have been as given below.
Children (order of births uncertain):
- i. ISABEL,³ b. 6 Aug. 1682 (Woburn records); probably d. young.
 - ii. HANNAH, b. 2 Nov. 1683 (Lancaster records); living unm. in 1727 (M. P.).
 - iii. BEATRIX, b. 3 Sept. 1685 (Lancaster records).
 - ✓ iv. ISABELL, b. 6 June 1687 (Lancaster records); m. (1) her first cousin, JOSEPH HOUGHTON (2, iv), *q.v.*; m. (2) 4 Aug. 1726 SAMUEL ROGERS.
 - ✓ v. ✓ ABIGAIL, b. 18 Apr. 1689 (Lancaster records); d. 20 Nov. 1753, aged 65 years, 7 months, 13 days; m. 14 May 1719 AMOS SAWYER, who d. in 1768. (Gravestones.)
Children (surname *Sawyer*):
1. *Esther*, b. 20 Apr. 1720.
 2. *Abigail*, b. 24 Apr. 1721.
 3. *Amos*, b. 1 Dec. 1724; probably d. young.
 4. *Deborah*, b. 25 Apr. 1727.
 5. *David*, b. 29 Mar. 1729.
 6. *Amos*, b. 30 Sept. 1733.
- ✓ vi. ELEAZER, b. in 1691 (Lancaster records); m. 11 Mar. 1718/19 ELIZABETH DIVOLL, daughter of William Divoll (W. D., lib. 1, p. 173). They lived in Lunenburg.
Children:
1. *Robert*,⁴ b. 12 Apr. 1720; d. 7 Aug. 1740 (Lancaster records).
 2. *Lois*, b. 22 July 1722 (Lancaster records).
 3. *Derias*, b. 20 Jan. 1723/4 (W. D., lib. 103, p. 101).
 4. *Miriam*, b. 22 Feb. 1725/6.

5. *Elizabeth*,
 6. *Ruth*,
 7. *Esther*,
 8. *Eleazer* (W. D., lib. 61, p. 124),
- } mentioned in the White Genealogy.
- vii. ✓ ROBERT, perhaps b. about 1692; d. in 1718; m. DEBORAH WILDER, b. in 1692, d. 7 Nov. 1763, in her 72d year (gravestone at Groton), daughter of John and Hannah (Atherton) Wilder. Hannah (Atherton) Wilder married (2), as his second wife, John² Houghton (2), uncle of her daughter Deborah's husband; and Deborah (Wilder) Houghton married (2) 30 Nov. 1720 John Longley of Groton. The Middlesex Probate Records mention four children, of whom three were entrusted in 1727 to the guardianship of John Longley.
- Children:
1. *Robert*,⁴ oldest son, deceased in 1727.
 2. *Esther*, fifteen years old in 1727.
 3. *Ebenezer*, thirteen years old in 1727.
 4. *Deborah*, ten years old in 1727.
- ✓ viii. JOSHUA, b. in 1695 (Lancaster records); d. before 1775, when his will was proved at Worcester; m. 8 Apr. 1719 ELIZABETH BENNITT.
- Children:
1. *Jerusha*,⁴ b. 6 Jan. 1719/20; m. Nathaniel Bixby.
 2. *Joshua*, b. and d. 6 June 1721.
 - ✓ 3. *Saul*, b. 6 June 1722; m. Mary Matthews of Frammingham.
 4. *Orpha*, b. 6 Nov. 1724; m. (1) Josiah Cutting; m. (2) Aaron Glazer.
 5. *Vastil*, b. 7 May 1727; m. Jonathan Prescott.
 - ✓ 6. *Solomon*, b. 5 July 1729 (W. D., lib. 45, p. 561); m. Deliverance Ross. *JUNE*
 7. *Tiras*, b. 16 Apr. 1732 (W. D., lib. 47, p. 28); d. before 1763 (*ib.*, lib. 50, p. 208); m. Rachel House.
 - ✓ 8. *Hiram*, b. 6 Jan. 1735.
- ix. ✓ GERSHOM, perhaps b. about 1697; d. 3 Apr. 1757 (Leominster records); m. 23 Feb. 1724/5 ELIZABETH RUGG (Lancaster records). His will mentions his wife Elizabeth and two children.
- Children, recorded at Lancaster:
1. ✓ *Abiathar*,⁴ b. 21 Jan. 1725/6.
 2. *Tamar*, b. 5 Dec. 1733.
- x. ✓ THOMAS, perhaps b. about 1699; m. 22 Nov. 1722 JOANNAH JOSLIN.
- Children:
1. *Peter*,⁴ b. 11, 1 mo. 1723/4 (Lancaster records).
 2. *Joannah*, b. 6, 4 mo. 1726.
 3. *Tabitha*, b. 14, 3 mo. 1727/8.
 4. *Esther*, b. 26, 3 mo. 1729.
 5. *Dorothy*, b. 9, 11 mo. 1732.
 6. *Oliver*, b. 17, 3 mo. 1733/4.
 7. *Damaris*, b. 28, 5 mo. 1737.
 8. *Rebeckah*, b. 18, 9 mo. 1739.
- xi. ✓ EBENEZER, b. in 1700 (gravestone at Lancaster); d. 13 Oct. 1723 (*ib.*); m. 23 Mar. 1720/1 MARY PRIEST.
- Child:
1. ✓ *Cyrus*,⁴ bapt. 1 Sept. 1723; committed to the guardianship of John Priest 19 Apr. 1728 (M. P., vol. 17, p. 532; cf. also W. D., lib. 9, p. 428).
- xii. MARY, b. about 1702; d., probably s.p., 23 Oct. 1726, in her 25th year (gravestone at Lancaster); m. DANIEL ALBERT.
- xiii. RACHAEL, bapt. 30 Nov. 1718; no record of her marriage or death.
- ✓ 4. JONAS² HOUGHTON (*John*¹), born about Apr. 1663 (gravestone at Lancaster), died 20 Sept. 1723, aged 60 years, 5 months (*ib.*). He married first, 15 Feb. 1681, MARY BERBEANE of

The birthday of Capt. Jonas (Jonas,² John,¹) should be corrected to July 2, 1682 (Hourse, "Middlesex Register, p. 15")

The second child of ~~xxxx~~ Jonas, not mentioned at all, was John (Jonas,² John,¹) b. 24 Jan. 1683/84. Mary was therefore the third child.

John Houghton (Jonas,³ Jonas,² John,¹) probably did not marry Keziah Ross. He was b. 13 Feb. 1731/32.

missed Entirely.

10. Silas Houghton (Benjamin,³ Jonas,² John,¹) b. 7 Oct. 1742, Lancaster (Register, p. 29). Dep. 28 Nov. 1742 (p.290) Princeton, Mass. m(1) Eunice Sawyer, int. 27 Aug. 1768 (p.41) 26 Oct. 1768 (p.101) (2) Sarah Gregory. (3) Thankful Howe. (Princeton Vital Records, and Blake's "History of Princeton" vol.ii, p.153
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Lancaster Register, p. 51. Betsey Houghton y^e daughter of Jonas & Mary Houghton was born March y^e 20: 1715-16. *dan. Capt. Jonas.*

Woburn, who died 31 Dec. 1720, in her 60th year (*ib.*); and secondly, as is to be inferred from the settlement of his estate (M. P.), SARAH ———.

Children by first wife:

- ✓ i. CAPT. JONAS,³ surveyor, b. 2, 7 mo. 1682; d. 15 Aug. 1739, in his 57th year (gravestone); m. 30, 6 mo. 1710 MARY BRIGHAM (Marlborough records). Administration was granted on his estate in 1739 (W. P.).

Children:

1. *Dinah*,⁴ b. 19 Apr. 1711; d. 13 Sept. 1723, aged 12 years, 5 months (gravestone at Lancaster).
2. *Silas*, b. 26 Oct. 1713.
3. *Betty*, b. 20 Mar. 1715/16; m. Paul Welch (W. D., lib. 32, p. 54S).
4. *Mary*, b. 8 Mar. 1720/1; m. Moses Bayley.
5. *Prudence*, b. 21 Oct. 1723; m. Samuel Snow (Bolton records).
6. *Persis*, b. 31 July 1726; m. James Snow, Jr. (Bolton records).
7. ✓ *Jonas*, "second son," b. 21 Apr. 1728; m. (1) Rebecca Nichols; m. (2) Lucy Johnson.
8. ✓ *John*, "youngest son," b. 13 Feb. 1730/1; m. Keziah Ross (Bolton records).

- ii. ✓ MARY, m. GAMALIEL BEAMAN, b. 29 Feb. 1684 (M. P.); d. 26 Oct. 1745, in his 61st year (gravestone), son of John and Priscilla Beaman.

Children (surname *Beaman*):

1. *Dinah*, b. 20 Sept. 1725.
2. *Zerviah*, bapt. 10 Aug. 1740.
3. *Lois*, bapt. 10 Aug. 1740.

- iii. ✓ SARAH, m. at Charlestown, 7 July 1708, FRANCIS RICHARDSON, son of Stephen and Abigail (Wyman) Richardson.

- iv. ✓ BENJAMIN, b. in 1691 (gravestone at Lancaster); d. 28 Feb. 1764, leaving a considerable estate (W. P.); m. 28 July 1720 ZERVIAH MOORE (Lancaster records). He lived in the West Precinct of Lancaster (now Sterling), where he was known as "Landlord Ben."*

Children:

- ✓ 1. *Zerviah*,⁴ b. 26 May 1721; m. Jonathan Wilder.
- ✓ 2. *Mindwell*, b. 7 Mar. 1722/3; m. John Crossley.
- ✓ 3. *Michal*, b. 22 Jan. 1725; m. Ephraim Roper.
- ✓ 4. *Dinah*, b. 8 Apr. 1727; m. Ezra Houghton.
- ✓ 5. *Keziah*, b. 29 May 1729; m. Ebenezer Buss.
- ✓ 6. *Benjamin*, called "3d," b. 17 Nov. 1732; d. in 1759.
- ✓ 7. *Abigail*, b. 27 July 1735; m. Ephraim Osgood.
- ✓ 8. *Joel*, b. 27 Sept. 1737. "eldest son surviving" (W. P.).
- ✓ 9. *Eunice*, b. 15 Oct. 1739; m. Jonathan Failey.

- v. ✓ DANIEL, m. LYDIA ———.

Children:

1. *Simeon*,⁴ bapt. 10 Aug. 1718; dwelt in Petersham (W. D.).
2. *Thaddeus*, bapt. 10 Aug. 1718.
3. ✓ *Annis*, bapt. 23 Nov. 1718; d. 3 Apr. 1759; m. 26 May 1749, Jonathan Harris. She left three children (W. D.).
4. ✓ *Nathaniel*, bapt. 25 Sept. 1720.
5. *Susannah*, bapt. 17 Jan. 1722/3.
6. *Jerusha*, bapt. 14 May 1724/5.
7. *Molle*, bapt. 19 Feb. 1726/7.
8. *Experience*, bapt. 24 Nov. 1728.
9. ✓ *Daniel*, bapt. 19 Sept. 1731.

- vi. ✓ EUNICE, b. 1 Mar. 1696; d. 24 June 1748, aged 52 years, 3 months, 24 days (gravestone at Lancaster); m. EPHRAIM SAWYER.

Children (surname *Sawyer*):

1. *Mary*, bapt. 26 Apr. 1724.
2. *Katherine*, bapt. 16 July 1727.
3. *Ephraim*, bapt. 20 Apr. 1728/9.

*For proof that this Benjamin was son of Jonas, see W. D., lib. 10, p. 135, in which he grants land to his brother-in-law, Gamaliel Beaman. See also M. D., lib. 26, p. 79.

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10 *Some Descendants of John Houghton of Lancaster, Mass.*

- ✓ vii. JOSIAH, b. in 1698; d. 29 Sept. 1723, aged 24 years, 11 months (grave-stone at Lancaster); m. MEHITABLE ———. The guardianship of his son *Josiah*,⁴ bapt. 4 Apr. 1725, was given to his widow (M. P.).
- viii. RUTH, m. 2 Mar. 1721/2 RICHARD WILDS (sometimes called WILLS).
Children (surname *Wilds*):
 1. *Jonas*, bapt. 27 Jan. 1722/3.
 2. *John*, bapt. 15 Nov. 1724; d. 24 Apr. 1737.
 3. *Barnard*, bapt. 20 Mar. 1725/6.
 4. *Silent*, bapt. 21 Apr. 1728.
 5. *Susanna*, b. 27 July 1730.
 6. *Margaret*, bapt. 18 Mar. 1732/3.
 7. *David*, bapt. 2 Nov. 1735.
 8. *Ruth*, bapt. 13 Apr. 1740.
- ✓ ix. STEPHEN, m. ABIGAIL ———. His will (M. P.), in 1763, divided his estate between his widow and his daughter Abigail.
Children (Bolton records):
 - ✓ 1. *Abigail*,⁴ b. 14 Jan. 1726/7.
 - ✓ 2. *Ebenezer*, b. 4 July 1728; d. 14 Feb. 1732/3.
- x. JAMES, m. 8 Oct. 1724 MARY JONES of Concord (Concord records). In his will (W. P.) he mentions all the children given below except John and Cate.
Children (Lancaster records):
 1. *Mary*,⁴ b. 2 Aug. 1726.
 2. *Cylence*, b. 2 Dec. 1727.
 - ✓ 3. *Nathaniel*, b. 5 Sept. 1729.
 4. *John*, b. 13 Feb. 1730/1.
 5. *Ammile*, b. 14 Nov. 1731.
 6. *James*, b. 3 Dec. 1733.
 7. *Cate*, b. 29 Nov. 1735.
 8. *Tamer*, b. 27 Sept. 1737.
 9. *Louisah*, b. 2 Jan. 1739.
- xi. DORCAS, m. 11 Jan. 1725 EBENEZER POLLY.
Children (surname *Polly*):
 1. *Ebenezer*, b. 24 Oct. 1726.
 2. *Joseph*, b. 3 Sept. 1728.
 3. *Mary*, b. 27 Nov. 1731.
- xii. JEMIMA, m. 14 Feb. 1724/5 SAMUEL CARTER.
Children (surname *Carter*):
 1. *Millisant*, b. 29 Aug. 1726; m. 3 July 1750 Abiather Houghton of Leominster.
 2. *Lucy*, b. 18 Aug. 1727.
 3. *Dorothy*, b. 21 Jan. 1729.
 4. *Mary*, b. 17 Feb. 1730/1.
 5. *Dinah*, b. 1 Feb. 1734/5.
 6. *Samuel*, b. 7 Jan. 1736/7.
 7. *Stanton*, b. 15 Feb. 1738/9.
 8. *Silas*, b. 16 Jan. 1740.
 9. *Prudence*, b. 15 Apr. 1743.
 10. *Jonas*, b. 4 July 1745.
 11. *Jemima*, b. 15 Sept. 1747; m. in 1768 David Nims, Jr.
- ✓ 5. JACOB³ HOUGHTON (*John*,² *John*¹), born at Lancaster 17, 2 mo. 1674 (Lancaster records), died 12 July 1750, in his 77th year (Bolton records). He married REBECCA WHITCOMB, who died 22 Oct. 1752, aged 80 years, 10 months, 29 days (gravestone at Lancaster), daughter of Josiah and Rebecca (Waters) Whitcomb.
He was the first town clerk of Bolton and the administrator of his father's estate.

Children, named in the division of his estate (W. P.):

- ✓ i. JACOB,⁴ b. 4 Nov. 1696.
- ✓ ii. BENJAMIN, "second son," "called Jr.," b. in 1700 (Lancaster records);
m. 20 July 1720 RUTH WHEELOCK (*ib.*; cf. also W. D., lib. 43, p. 200), who d. 2 Mar. 1762, aged 61 (Lancaster records), daughter of Joseph (whose will is in W. P.) and Elizabeth Wheelock of Lancaster.
Children:
 1. - Ezra,⁵ b. 2 July 1722.
 2. - Abijah, b. 23 Sept. 1723.
 3. - Relief, b. 23 Oct. 1726.
 4. - Elijah, b. 16 June 1728.
 5. - Parnee, b. 14 Apr. 1730.
 6. - Philemon, b. 3 June 1731.
 7. - Nahum, b. 1 Oct. 1732.
 8. - Ruth, b. 3 Apr. 1734.
 9. - Lemuel, b. 25 Sept. 1735.
 10. - Benjamin, b. 10 May 1740.
 11. - Elizabeth, b. 24 Oct. 1743.
- ✓ iii. ISRAEL, "third son."
- iv. ✓ JONATHAN, "fourth son," b. in 1703.
- v. ✓ JOHN, "youngest son," b. in 1712.
- vi. ✓ REBECCA, "oldest daughter," m. — Moor.
- vii. ✓ ABIGAIL, "second daughter," m. — Moor.

10 MAR. 18 DEC 1729

